Hume. With 2 Jeux d'Esprits by Lord Hailes; with MS Corrections in his hand writing.

J A Maconochie

(22 loose sheets)

1838



J. A. Maconochie.

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DAVIDIS HUMEI, SCOTI,

SUMMI APUD SUOS PHILOSOPHI,

DE VITA SUA ACTA,

LIBER SINGULARIS;

NUNC PRIMÙM LATINÈ REDDITUS.

By Sir David Dalrymple. Lord Hailes.

[library stamp]

MDCCLXXXVII.

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DAVIDIS HUMEI

DE VITA SUA ACTA

LIBER.

ARduum eſt de ſemet ipſo prolixius quenquam loqui, ita ut abſit arrogantia, ideoque brevis ero; fortaſſis etiam arrogans videar, quòd commentarium de rebus ad me pertinentibus ſcribendum ſuſceperim. At narratio mea nihil ferè in ſe habebit, præter meorum ſcriptorum hiſtoriam, quippe qui omnem propè ætatem in literis excolendis tranſegerim. Scripta mea, de pleriſque intelligi volo, ubi primò vulgata, minimè eo plauſu accepta ſunt quo valdè gloriari poſſem.

Natus ſum Edinburgi Scotorum vi. Calend. Maii, A. C. N. MDCCXI. generoſis parentibus. Pater originem duxit ab ea fa- 1711.
milia cujus princeps Comes *Homeus* ſive *Humeus*, et majores, a multis retrò annis, ea ipſa prædia ruſtica tenuerunt quæ frater nunc tenet. Matrem habui filiam Davidis Falconeri, Equitis, qui Collegio litium civilium judicandarum præfuerat, primus inter Scotiæ Quindecimviros. Avunculo meo *Dominium de Halkerton* jure hæreditario obvenit.

Cùm verò filius familias minor natu eſſem, oriundus patre non admodùm nummato, portionem legitimam, ut moris eſt apud nos, perquàm exilem ſortitus ſum. Deceſſit pater, quem aiunt virum fuiſſe cordatum, me adhuc puerulo, meque cum fratre primogenito et ſorore unica uxoris tutelæ tradidit, matronæ optimè meritæ, quæ, licet decora atque ætate florens, tota fuit in alendis educandiſque liberis. Inſtitutionum juvenilium curſum, ut adſolet, laudatè ſatis confeci. Me tantus ab ipſa uſque pueri-

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tia literarum amor corripuit, ut is ſemper eſſet præcipuus animi mei affectus, cæterarum cupiditatum domitor, et fons oblectamentorum meorum omnium. Eâ eram legendi aviditate, eâ animi moderatione, eâ diligentiâ, ut propinqui me a natura comparatum ad munia juriſconſulti obeunda ſibi perſuaderent. Atqui voluntas mea a ſtudiis quibuſcunque præter philoſophiam et variam eruditionem omninò abhorrebat; et dum ii credebant me Voetio Vinnioque, juris civilis doctoribus, operam dediſſe, ego Ciceronis ac Virgilii ſcripta mecum devorabam.

Huic tamen vitæ inſtituto res familiaris mea quàm exigua minimè ſufficiebat, et cùm ipſe, fractus aliquatenus ſtudiis, parùm firmâ uterer valetudine, pellectus, vel, ut rectius loquar, coactus fui, ut, vitâ umbratili egreſſus, negotia capeſſerem. Res langui-
1734. dius ſuſcepta infelicem habuit exitum. Nam anno MDCCXXXIV. mercatoribus nonnullis inſignioribus commendatus, Briſtolium inviſi, ſed, paucorum menſium intervallo, didici mercaturam rem eſſe a meis moribus alieniſſimam. Itaque in Galliam tranſii, eo animo, ut rure agens ſtudiis liberius vacarem; atque ibi eæ vivendi rationes ſuſceptæ, quibus conſtanter ac feliciter uſque adhuc uſus ſum. Statui enim parcimoniâ fortunas emendare, et ut mei juris prorſus eſſem, cavere, cæteris rebus omnibus poſthabitis ac ſpretis, præter ingenii culturam *.

In receſſu Gallico, primùm Rhemis, mox Flexiæ in Andegavenſi provincia, opus *de Natura Humana* compoſui. Triennio apud
1737. Gallos jucundiſſimè acto, Londinum migravi MDCCXXXVII. et anno exeunte, librum meum edidi, et protenus in Scotiam me contuli, viſurus fratrem, in re familiari augendâ prudenter ac proſperè occupatum, et matrem, quæ cum eo unâ rure degebat.

* "Except the improvement of my *talents* in literature." Reſpicit auctor, et piè quidem, ad Evangelium D. Matthæi, c. xxv. v. 15. 16. 20. 21. ubi agitur de ſervo bono heri ſui præceptis obſequenti.

Prodiit

Prodiit liber *de Natura Humana* infaustissimis ominibus, quippe

"E prelo exanimis cecidit *."

Nec ulla prodeunti adfuit celebritas, et ne minima quidem *Zelotarum* † obmurmuratio. Eâ quanquam calamitate perculsus, mox tamen ad me redii, utpote quem natura hilari animo finxerat atque erecto, et dum rusticabar, studiis impensius incubui.

Anno MDCCXLII. Edinburgi priorem partem *Speciminum* ‡ meorum excudendam curavi, cùmque opus arrideret, illicò veni in oblivionem repulsæ literariæ olim acceptæ. Interea rure apud meos moratus, sermonis Græci peritiam mihi paravi, ineunte ætate inconsultiùs intermissam. 1742.

Anno MDCCXLV. Annandiæ Marchio me, literis missis, ad convictum suum in Anglia vocavit ‖. Intellexi porrò propinquos juvenis illius nobilis id agere, ut ei, qui nec mente nec corpore satis valebat, me custodem simul ac gubernatorem præstarem. Per annum integrum cum eo vixi. Merces, ob hujusmodi operam navatam, accepta incrementum attulit non modicum rei meæ angustæ. Proinde Jacobus de Sancto Claro militum dux me invitavit ut ei essem ab epistolis: præfuit quidem ille copiis ad Canadiam subigendam comparatis, quæ tamen, mutato demùm consilio, non nisi in Galliæ oras maritimas incursionem fecerunt. 1745.

Proximo anno MDCCXLVII. idem dux, cùm legatus mitteretur Teresiæ Austriacæ et Sardiniæ Regi, hortatus est, ut ad se et ad officia rediens, eum in itinere comitarer. Parui libenter, paluda- 1747.

* "It fell *dead-born from the press.*"

† Sunt in Anglia plurimæ hominum religiosorum familiæ, neque satis constat quinam fuerint *Zelotæ isti*, quorum odia venabatur vir Cl.

‡ *Essays*, a Petr. Dan. Huetio *Specimina* appellantur; rectius forsitan *Experimenta*.

‖ Constans fama est juvenem illum infelicem historiam rerum a se gestarum, quæ tamen nullæ fuerunt, (*Memorias* Galli vocant), contexuisse, consiliis Humei nostri, si Diis placet, in opere expoliendo usurum.

mentum

mentum indui, et *adjutoris castrensis** ementito nomine, in aulas regias introductus veni coram principibus, unà cum Henrico Erskineo, Equite, et Jacobo Granto, Centurione, qui nunc legionem ducit †. Biennium hoc, quod nunquam aliàs mihi accidit, de literis demptum est: id tamen suaviter traduxi inter homines elegantiores versatus. Cùm frugi essem ac parcus, præmium pro muneribus gestis acceptum me eò usque ditaverat, ut, subridentibus licet amicis plerisque, me pecuniosum esse prædicarem, ac meo deinceps more victurum; ut verbo dicam, divitiarum mearum summa ferè ad mille libras redibat.

Equidem semper in animum induxeram libro *de Natura Humana* malè cessisse, quòd, ut creberrimè fit, immaturiùs ac imprudentiùs me in scriptorum numerum referri voluissem, quòdque modo et formâ potius quàm re ipsâ errassem: proinde priorem partem istius operis ad incudem revocavi, et ut *Disquisitio de Intellectu Humano* audiret, volui. Prodiit hæc opella me adhuc peregrè agente et Augustæ Taurinorum commorante. Sed non multo melius cum ea actum quàm cum libro *de Natura Humana*. Ab Italia reversus comperi, acerbo meo dolore, omnem Angliam fervere controversiis *de Disquisitione Libera* Middletoni ‡ ortis. Jacebat interea meum opus, neglectum planè ac prætermissum; neque multo melius successit editioni alteri *Speciminum* sive *Sermonum de Moribus et de Politia* tunc temporis Londini vulgatæ.

Mira certè vis indolis, quæ continuò effecit, ut, spe licet toties
1749. frustratus, vix minimam molestiam sentirem. Anno MDCCXLIX. Scotiam petii, et biennium egi cum fratre in prædio suo, matre jam e vivis abreptâ. Ibi alteram partem *Speciminum* meorum contexui, *Sermonum Politicorum* ‖ titulo insignitam, additâ etiam *de*

* *Aid de camp.* † *Major-General.*

‡ " A Free Inquiry into the Miraculous Powers," &c. Auctor, Coniers Middletonus, *Sacrosanctæ Theologiæ Professor.*

‖ " Political Discourses."

Principiis

Principiis Ethicorum Diſquiſitione *. Quæ portio quoque eſt operis illius quod refeceram. Inter hæc ab Andrea Millaro bibliopolâ, cujus miniſteriis utebar, certior factus fui, ſcripta mea omnia, præter infelicem illum tractatum †, jam eſſe in ore hominum, exemplaria, aucto ſenſim numero, diſtrahi, et iterandas editiones flagitari. Tunc demùm cujuſcunque ordinis ſacerdotes argumentis meis occurrere, et a viris *reverendis* pariter atque *admodùm reverendis*, quotannis, neque ſemel tantùm, *reſponſa* publicari ; cumque D. Warburtonus convitiis me inceſſeret, intellexi probè, libros meos, apud cœtus elegantiores, gratiâ aliquâ valere. Ego tamen mecum ſtatueram, et ſemper in propoſito ſuſceptoque conſilio permanſi, " nulli hominum unquam reponere," cùmque iraſci celerior non eſſem, me facilè a turbis iſtis literariis immunem ſervavi. Hiſce indiciis creſcentis mihi famæ me conſolabar ; is enim mihi animus erat, ut, ſemper ominatus benè, meliorem in partem cuncta interpretarer, quo ſi quis præditus fuerit ingenio, vivet rectius utique ac felicius quàm ſi illi vectigal annuum, quod decem mille librarum exæquaret, hereditate obveniſſet.

Anno MDCCLI. e rure in urbem migravi, in ſcenam ſcilicet 1751.
viro erudito aptiſſimam.

Anno MDCCLII. publici juris facti ſunt Edinburgi, ubi dege- 1752.
bam, *Sermones* mei *Politici*, unicum de ſcriptis meis quod a primo probè ecceptum ; placuit enim domi foriſque. Eodem etiam anno, prodiit Londini *de Principiis Ethicorum Diſquiſitio*, quæ, meo quidam judicio, (quod tamen de ſcriptis meis nullum eſt), omnia mea, tam ad Hiſtoriam quàm ad Philoſophiam et rem literariam ſpectantia, longiſſimè antecellit. Prodiit opus nullâ prorſus obſervantiâ.

* " Inquiry concerning the Principles of Morals."

† De libro ſuo *natu maximo* agit vir Cl. cujus funeri, tantâ doloris acerbitate, toties parentavit, ut in eo Naturam *Philoſophiæ victricem*, pœne dixeris. Aliàs tamen, quod notatu dignum, paulò faſtidioſius ait, " opus illud in ipſa juventa exaratum, et " *ab auctore nunquam agnitum*." Ad Specim. *Præfat.*

1752. Anno MDCCLII. Collegium Jurisperitorum, quod Edinburgi est, me bibliothecæ suæ præfectum designavit. Munus id, quanquam minimè quæstuosum, amplâ tamen librorum copiâ ūti frui permisit. Tum primùm initum de Historia Angliæ contexenda consilium: sed absterrebat operis immanis magnitudo, cùm res gestæ per annos mille et septingentos, idque serie continuâ, enarrandæ essent. Itaque orsus sum ab illis temporibus, quibus *Domus Stuartiadum* imperii apud Anglos potita est, unde præcipuè, ut mihi videbatur, historici, vel odio vel amore partium, veritatem obumbrare cœperant. Non diffiteor equidem me de libri mei fortunis magnificentius auguratum; putabam enim me solum eum esse Historicum, qui neque auctoritati principum virorum conciliandæ, neque rebus propriis promovendis studerem, et qui inveteratas hominum sententias, quæque ex inscitia rerum oriuntur, oblatrantes populi voces omnino nihili facerem. Et cùm esset operis argumentum lectoris cujuscunque ingenio accommodatum, favorem iis meritis responsurum præstolabar. Verùm

1754. me meæ spes miserè fefellerunt. Quippe in me excitata est una vox reprehendentium et calumniantium, nec deerant qui etiam abominarentur. Jam Angli, insuper Scoti et Hiberni etiam, jam magnarum ac diversarum factionum homines *, et qui templa, more patrio, frequentabant, et qui conventicula, religiosi ut et de sacris liberius sentientes, viri populares simul atque purpurati, omnes denique, exacerbatis animis, impetus fecerunt in illum devotum homuncionem, qui eâ fuit audaciâ, ut casus Staffordiæ

* "*Whig* and *Tory*." Vocabula hæc, modò ignominiosa, modò in honore habita, Latinè reddi vix possunt. Est qui, factionum Circensium memor, homines hujusmodi *Prasinos* appellaret et *Venetos*; id tamen, in re seria, ludicrum nimis: est qui *Moderatos* et *Rigidos*; sed malè; nam ex historiis constat, *Moderatos* nonnunquam bacchāri, *Rigidos* verò mollescere. Quod si ad Græcos fontes recurreres, qui plenius canaliculis Romanis scaturiunt, propriè satis dixeris *Philodemos* et *Philotyrannos*, at longè diversâ notione quàm apud Anglos *favourers of the Mob* efferuntur, et *favourers of a tyrant*.

Comitis,

Comitis, et Caroli, Britannorum Regis, honeſtis lacrymis proſequeretur. At, quod vehementius angebat, inſaniâ illâ paulatim defervefcente, ipſe liber oblivioni conſignandus videbatur; nam, monitus a bibliopola, didici exemplaria non ultra quadraginta et quinque * per annum integrum fuiſſe diſtracta. Et revera intellexi vix unum eſſe aut alterum, per inſulas Britannicas, virum ordine vel eruditione conſpicuum, qui *Hiſtoriam* meam ferret †. Excipiam modò, quod quidem non vulgare, Thomam Herringum Angliæ Primatem, et Georgium Stoneum ejuſdem dignitatis apud Hibernos, antiſtites eximios; quorum uterque mihi in mandatis dedit ut bono animo eſſem.

Sed, ut verum fatear, fui aliquantùm animo fracto et demiſſo, et niſi quòd bellum Gallos inter et Britannos mox exarſurum videretur, patriæ haud dubiè ſupremùm valedixiſſem, et me, *tranſnominatum* etiam, in neſcio quam urbem obſcuriorem Galliæ recepiſſem. Verùm cùm his conſiliis non amplius eſſet locus, et alterum volumen meum ad umbilicum procederet, animos reſumere ſtatui et ſcribendo perdurare.

Dùm hæc gerebantur, emiſi, Londini, *Hiſtoriam Religionis Naturalem* ‡, additis quibuſdam aliis opuſculis. Prodiit liber in

* Numerus is apud Anglos fatalis. De eo tamen bibliopolam cogitaſſe, vix eſt ut crederem.

† Ego, qui iis temporibus interfueram, harum tragœdiarum non memini; at rem ita geſtam audivi: Gavinus Hamiltonus, bibliopola Edinburgenſis, vir bonus ſi quis alius, voluminis iſtius omnia exemplaria ab auctore coemerat, pretio 400 librarum Anglicanarum numerato, ſuo commodo ſibi pollicitus ſe ſingulatim venditurum. Londinum it, merces venales proponit; ſed aliter viſum bibliopolis Londinenſibus, quibus extrudere non potuit. Quid faceret Hamiltonus, æger animi, et ſine ulla expectatione rerum meliorum? Uni alicui ex numero *bibliopolarum*, quos *Sapientes* Warburtonus vocat, exemplaria *per averſionem*, ut jureconſulti loquuntur, vendidit, quibus tandem coemptis, nomen operi venit, ſuus auctori honos additus, et ampliatum alterius voluminis pretium.

‡ *Natural Hiſtory of Religion.*

publicum

publicum nullâ ferè celebritate, nisi quod ei Ricardus Hurdus libellum opposuit, eâ petulantiâ illiberali, eo fastu, et eâ denique scurrilitate, quæ *scholæ Warburtonianæ* genuina *. Libellus iste mihi aliquid allevamenti attulit, cùm aliàs opus meum non admodùm placeret.

1756. Anno MDCCLVI. biennio exacto post infaustum voluminis prioris occasum, prodiit alterum a mortuo Carolo Primo usque ad res per Gulielmum Nassovium mutatas. Illud, forte fortunâ, *Philodemis*, quos dicunt, minus displicuit, ideoque benignius acceptum. Emersit enim, et secum unâ fratrem suum infelicem e profundo extulit.

At ego, quamvis usu didiceram *Philodemos* solos valere, et esse qui, tam in re publica, quàm literaria, omnia possiderent, conferrent, largirentur; nolui tamen, ne tantillùm quidem, hujusmodi hominum insulso clamori cedere. Hinc factum est, ut cùm opus retractarem, et, vel libris accuratius pervolutandis, vel exquisitiore studio et meditatione melius edoctus, plurima in *Stuartiadum Historia* emendanda deprehenderem, ea omnia, ad centesimum usque numerum, ex sententia *Philotyrannorum* correxerim. Ante illa tempora, extitisse unquam apud Anglos civitatem liberam, et legibus bene constitutam, id sanè dictu ridiculum est.

1759. Anno MDCCLIX. exiit *Tudorum Historia*. Protinus idem ferè

* Falsus est vir eximius; ego rem totam paucis dabo. Warburtonus *Historiam Religionis Naturalem*, opus non magnæ molis, perlegerat, expectans, ut ipse jocatus est, *Terræmotuum Historiam moralem* brevi prodituram, cùmque nescio quì, in illo opere sibi visus fuisset nonnulla deprehendisse homini religenti, ne dicam Christiano, parùm convenientia, statim, ut erat animi præceps, animadversiones quasdam extemporales ad oram codicis sui annotaverat. Eas, ne interirent, exscripsit Hurdus, nunc magno Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ commodo præsul Vigorniensis, et nomen dissimulans, prælo commisit. Quòque res lateret melius, titulum *Epistolæ ad Warburtonum* suppositum præmisit, et pauca quædam in Warburtoni laudes addidit. Id nescivit Humeus; si scivisset, gloriæ suæ omninò appositurus.

excitus

excitus clamor, qui volumini primo oblatraverat, præcipuè quoad res ab Elisabetha Regina gestas. Verùm enimverò me insulsitas publica, callo mihi demùm obducto, non amplius movebat. Ipse interim, tranquillo et æquo animo vitam agens, Edinburgi delitescebam, et unicè curans, ut manus extrema accederet *Historiæ rerum in Anglia per vetustiora tempora gestarum*, quam, duobus itidem voluminibus explicatam, anno MDCCLXI, publici juris feci. 1761.
Inde aliqua, quamquam satis parca, famæ meæ accessio facta est.

Etsi scripta mea, variis hisce tempestatibus obnoxia, ventos interdum idoneos, mox adversos, experta fuerint; cursum tamen suum tenēre non destiterunt. Nam pretium mihi a redemptoribus librariis numeratum * ante hæc tempora inauditum, ut jam non modò mei omnino juris essem, sed opibus largè affluerem. In Scotiam meam me recepi, eo animo ut nunquam inde dimoverer. Ideo mihi unicè placebam, quòd neminem ex optimatibus, aut supplicaturus aut amicitiæ colendæ causâ, salutavissem; cùmque annos quinquaginta haberem, constituebam me eo protenus vivendi genere usurum quod Philosophum maximè deceret.

Verùm, anno MDCCLXIII, Hertfordiensis Comes, ad Galliæ 1763.
Regem orator designatus, ne minimùm quidem mihi notus, me, ut sui gregis essem, humaniter hortatus est; additâ etiam spe non mediocri me ipso scribæ munere in legatione obeunda brevì fruiturum, susceptis interea muneris istius officiis. Conditiones oblatas, licet arriderent, primò rejeci; abhorrebam enim animo a nova aliqua cum Magnis consuetudine; inerat porrò suspicio, ne aulæ Gallicæ urbanitas et festivæ vivendi rationes ingenio meo atque ætati minus convenirent; at, cùm instaret vir amplissimus, ei morem gessi. Equidem, si vel oblectamenta spectes vel lucrum, ego, multis nominibus, de me præclarè actum puto, quòd

* "*Copy-money*." q. d. pecunia ad acquirendum librorum manu scriptorum dominium persoluta.

officia primùm Hertfordienſi Comiti, deinde fratri ejus, Henrico Conwayo, ductori militum, me commendatum dederint.

Quo ritu Pariſiis ab omnibus ex omni ordine et ſexu fuerim exceptus, id ſanè nemo facile conjecturâ aſſequi poterit, niſi qui vim portentoſam conſuetudinis morumque * exploratam et probè cognitam habuerit. Quo magis ab iſta comitate ſuaviſſima me ſubtraherem, inſtare illa magis et ingraveſcere. Et revera jucundiſſimè vivitur Pariſiis, neque enim alibi uſquam locorum tot viros tam ſubacti judicii deprehendas, tantæ eruditionis ſimul atque urbanitatis. Idque in cauſa aliquando erat, ut ſedem ibi rerum atque fortunarum mearum ponere deſtinârem.

Scribæ titulo ad legationem adminiſtrandam cohoneſtatus ſum;
1765. cùmque ſub æſtate anni MDCCLXV, Hertfordienſis Comes, Vicarius regis in Hiberniam proficiſceretur, me Pariſiis poſt ſe reliquit, rebus gerendis invigilaturum †, donec Richmondiæ Dux, orator ſuffectus, adveniſſet. Advenit porrò is vergente anno; ego verò,
1766. anno MDCCLXVI ineunte, Pariſiis valedixi, et æſtate ſubſequente Edinburgum me contuli, non alio, quàm olim, animo, ut me ſcilicet in receſſu meo, Philoſophi ad ritum, conderem. Eo redii non quidem *ſorte* opulentior, ſed ex amicitia Hertfordienſis Comitis ‡, majore vi pecuniæ, et *aucto reditu* beatior. Jam experiri ſtatui quid poſſent uſuræ legitimæ in rebus ſupervacaneis augendis, ſicut antea expertus fueram in re modica.

1767. Atqui, anno MDCCLXVII, Henricus Conwayus me evocavit, ut comitem me ſibi ab Epiſtolis Regiis, ſecundo loco, adjungerem, et ea ſanè erat hominis exiſtimatio, eæ utique cum Hertfordienſi Comite neceſſitudines meæ, ut vocatus ultrò adfuerim.

* "The ſtrange effects of modes." Quod quidem Latinè reddi vix poteſt.

† *Chargè des affaires.*

‡ Rectius, " ex beneficentia Georgii III. Britannorum Regis." Nam Humeum noſtrum ab Hertfordienſi Comite mercedem annuam acceptam retuliſſe non memini.

Anno

Anno demùm MDCCLXIX, Edinburgum redii, locuples planè et pecuniosus, quippe reditus annui ad summam mille librarum excurrebant, et cùm prosperâ valetudine uterer, ætate quanquam provectior, spes erat me longo otio et augescente indies scriptorum meorum gloriâ fruiturum. 1769.

Vere MDCCLXXV intestina subitò doluerunt. Morbus iste primò levis videbatur, qui sonticus postea evasit, et, meo quidem judicio, exitialis futurus. Jam mortem, naturæ dissolutionem, opperior. Levia quidem a morbo perpessus sum, et, quod magis mireris, corpore licet attenuato et debili, tamen ne minimùm quidem alacri esse et læto animo destiti, ideoque si in vitæ curriculo rursus versari liceret, ferè est ut opiner hoc spatium inter ægritudines confectum me præ cæteris amplexurum. Idem enim qui unquam fuit legendi et meditandi ardor, eadem in familiarium coetibus hilaritas. Neque non mecum reputo mortem homini quintum et sexagesimum annum agenti non nisi paucos annos, eosque graves et ingratos, præcidere; et quamvis indicia plurima exstarent, fore ut fama mea literis parta, aucto tandem splendore, enitesceret, benè tamen novi eâ me non ultra perpaucos annos gavisurum—vix est ut alterum invenias vivendi curâ atque studio expeditiorem. 1775.

Restat denique, ut, more historico, mei Elogium adjiciam. *Sum*, vel, ut aptius dicam, *fui*, (nam eâ ratione sermo componendus est, cùm de me, quasi jamdudum mortuo, loquuturus sim, eamque ob causam quod sentiam liberius eloquar), *fui* itaque mitis ingenii et mihi imperiosus, animo aperto, festivo, comi; qui amicum me facilè præstarem, inimicum vix unquam: inerat quoque singularis quædam affectuum omnium moderatio. Ea ipsa aviditas famæ, ex scriptis editis, quærendæ, quæ me totum occupavit, nunquam omninò effecit, ut, rebus literariis toties improsperè gestis, exacerbato essem animo. Consuetudo mea studiosis simul et eruditis non displicuit, neque adolescentibus incau-

tis

tis etiam improvidiſque ingrata. Et cùm probarum fœminarum conſortione magnoperè delectarer, non eſt cur querar me ab illis malè fuiſſe acceptum. Ut verbo dicam, plerique hominum aliquo numero excellentes Calumniam conqueſti ſunt, et meritò; ego verò dente illius venenato non tantùm non læſus fui, ſed ne quidem impetitus; et quamvis me furori factionum civilium æquè ac ſacrarum ultrò obtuleram, tamen iſtæ ipſæ factiones, mei cauſâ, rabiem ſuam conſuetam depoſuiſſe videbantur, neque unquam amicis meis occaſio oblata eſt, ut æſtimationem meam, vel in re minima, tuerentur. Haud ſanè diſſimulandum *Zelotas* id unicè voluiſſe, ut in me crimina fingerent, et, ſparſis rumoribus, diſſeminarent; at nihil unquam deprehendere potuerunt quod, vel iis ipſis judicibus, ſimilitudinem veri præ ſe tuliſſet. Fateor equidem me paulò arrogantius egiſſe, habitâ ad hunc modum oratione meâ funebri, quanquam, ŭti ſpero, non ineptè, nam de rebus agitur quæ nullo negotio indagari atque definiri poſſint *."

1776. xiv. Kal. Maii. MDCCLXXVI.

* Languere videtur moribundi Humei peroratio. At non eſſet interpretis fidelis id vel celare vel corrigere. Obiit viii. Kal. Septembris, diarrhœâ extinctus. *Vid.* Adami Smithi, LL. D. *ad* Gulielmum Strahanum *Armigerum*, *Epiſtola*, p. 46.

(a Jeu d'Esprit ~~of~~ (by) Lord Hailes)

Adami Smithi L.L.D
ad
Gulielmum Strahanum, Armigerum
De rebus novissimis
Davidis Humei
Epistola
nunc primum Latinè reddita
1788.

SCripturus, STRAHANE, tibi, mî dulcis amice,
Lætor et indoleo, calamo mandare fideli — *chartæ*
Dum ſtudeo voces et geſta noviſſima, nobis
Dilecti multùm, multùmque merentis, HUMEI.
Quanquam viſceribus dudum perſpexerat æger
Virus ali, nec ſpem vitæ ſupereſſe futuræ,
Ceſſit amicorum precibus, fierique periclum
Maluit admonitus, poterint num longa viarum — *possent*
Aut lenire malum, aut progreſſus ſiſtere morbi.
Commentariolum *de vita* condidit *acta*
Ipſe *ſua*, patriâ mox diſceſſurus ab urbe,
Idque tuæ fidei, ſimul ac genus omne ſchedarum, — *simul et*
Commiſit; jamque hìc rerum mihi naſcitur ordo. ×
Eſt iter ingreſſus quando pluvialis Aprilis
Graminaque et flores Maio tradebat alendos;
Illâ Londoniis ego tempeſtate morabar,
Sed, deſiderio ſocii perculſus, abivi,
Conductis rapiendus equis atque axe citato,
Protenus in Scotiam; mecum Comes adſuit unà — *avolat*
Aptus amicitiæ officiis, animique benigni,
Huic eadem quoque cauſa viæ; fit et obvius ipſe — ××
Morpethi, nobis ~~ubi non ſperatus~~, HUMEUS. — *non expectatus*
Inde Comes, repetens veſtigia, fidus amico
Perque locos omnes et diverſoria ſemper
Hærebat lateri, et curas ſermone levabat.
Atque utinam, pars ipſe chori, conviva fuiſſem! — *sociusq[ue]*

Sed

×-Rerum inde mihi jam nascitur ordo

×× Cui par causa viæ; tum forte fit obvius ipse

N.B. The corrections are in Lord Hailes's own handwriting

Sed me religio, nulli cessura, coegit
Instaurare viam, patriosque revisere fines.
Namque ego de reditu nuper promissa parenti
Longævæ dederam scriptis sancita, neque illa
Stare ad Fifæi cessabat littoris oras
Opperiens gnatum maternis anxia curis.
Mutato cessit morbi violentia cœlo,
Membraque, continuis exercita cursibus, auctas
Sumere paulatim vires; hinc sanior illi
Visus Londoniis Habitus, quàm nuper Edinæ.
Conveniunt medici, Baias * vox omnibus una
Esse salutares, Baias migravit HUMEUS,
Potaturus *aquas*, queis commendaverat olim
Ipsa suum imperium domitrix HYGEIA malorum!
Principio, rerum facies jucunda *liquori*
Baiano famam dedit, ut jam credulus omen
Ipse videretur Reducis cœpisse Salutis.
Mox tamen indomiti exarsit vis pristina morbi,
Nota nimis; retrò tunc omnia visa referri,
Quæsitæque artes nocuere, et sparsa medentûm
Agmina fugerunt, nec profuit haustus *aquarum*.
× ~~Tunc spes vivendi, compostâ mente, rejecit,~~
~~Et se ducturum fatis commisit HUMEUS.~~
Inde lares repetit patrios, attritus, et ægro
Corpore debilior multùm, sed et integra mansit
Mens hilaris, morumque animus memor usque priorum.
Sæpe retractabat prius edita scripta, severo
Judice quæ curas poterant meruisse secundas,
Sæpe leves Sapientem oblectavere libelli.

* *Thermæ, apud Anglos, præcipui nominis, in provincia Somersettensi: ibi natio medicorum.*

Nunc

×Tunc spem vitæ omnem composito pectore, ... seq suis ultrò fatis subjecit Humeus

Nunc et, amicorum vario sermone, molestæ
Tœdia fallebat vitæ, nunc vespere sero
Ludebat, quod quondam illi florentibus annis
Delitiæ, nunc grande mali solamen, *Huistum* *.
Quin vultus hilares, et sermo comis, et idem
Servatus vitæ tenor ac prius esse solebat,
Fecerunt, quanquam mortis manifesta propinquæ
Indicia extarent, ut multi credere signis
Noluerint visis, doctusque Machaonis artes
Talibus aggressus fuerit ~~*Dundasus*~~ amicum.
" *Edmondstoneum* visurus rure Tribunum
" Omnia fausta feram, rabiem mitescere morbi,
" Teque tuis reddi." Contra respondit HUMEUS,
" Non ego te, *Dundase*, levem fictive tenacem
" Credebam, tu vera meo fer dicta sodali.
" Morte *citâ* morior, *lenique*, nec, ut reor, odit
" Si quis me, *citius* moriturum, nec quis amicus
" *Lenius* optaret." Modico post tempore venit
Edmondstoneus, sortem miseratus acerbam,
Dicturusque vale, &c.

Tunc ego, " te fractis, carissime, viribus ægrum
" Et video et vidisse dolet, jamque undique sævæ
" Apparent morbi facies, inimicaque nobis
" Omina; sed voces hilares, lætumque remissâ

* *Angl.* Whist.
Notus et Hesperiis, notus quoque lusus Eois,
Qui quid sit pulchrum, &c.

" Fronte

"Fronte ſupercilium, & vitalis ſpiritus auræ
"Acer adhuc, ſuadent aliquid ſperare ſecundi."
At ſapiens, "Pol me moribundum, Adame, vocares
"Nomina ſi rebus dare convenientia mavis: velles
"Altera jam morbo implicitum me detinet æſtas,
"Ille quidem, vegeti quamvis nunc corporis eſſem, quanquam quis essem
"Difficilis, ſenium gravat, haud ſanabilis ullâ
"Arte, *Diarrhœam* medici dixêre Pelaſgi.
"Membrorum virtutem horæ prædantur euntes,
"Senſi equidem, et ſedes inter vitalia fixit
"Dira valetudo, nec te ſpes lactet inanis,
"Adſtat ſumma dies"—"eſto ut ſis verus haruſpex,
"Quo lœteris habes; ſociis felicia cedunt
"Omnia, dives opum nec ab una parte beata
"Stat fraterna domus."
His ego vicinum morti ſolabar amicum.
"Jamdudum, hæc animo recolens," reſpondit Humeus,
"Perfuſum multâ ſenſi dulcedine pectus,
"Atque ubi *Luciâni* nuper legiſſe *Cataplum*
"Contigit, hærebam ambiguus, quæ cauſa morarum
"Danda ſeni tetrico, fatalem aſcendere cymbam torvo
"Cum jubet, et Stygias ſecum tranare paludes;
"Non mihi conveniunt cauſæ quæ pluribus umbris.
"Nec dotanda domi eſt, viridi jam nubilis ævo,
"Nata, nec inſtaurandæ ædes, nullique ſuperſunt,
"~~Me~~ quibus ulciſci vellem ~~implacabilis~~, hoſtes."
De ^me ^fervidus,

Adami Smithi L.L.D
ad
Gulielmum Strahanum Armigerum,
de rebus novissimis
Davidis Humei
Epistola
nunc primum Latine redditum 1788

SCripturus, STRAHANE, tibi, mì dulcis amice,
Lætor et indoleo, ~~calamo~~ mandare fideli / charta
Dum ſtudeo voces et geſta noviſſima, nobis
Dilecti multùm, multùmque merentis, HUMEI.
Quanquam viſceribus dudum perſpexerat æger
Virus ali, nec ſpem vitæ ſupereſſe futuræ,
Ceſſit amicorum precibus, fierique periclum
Maluit admonitus, ~~poterint~~ num longa viarum / possent
Aut lenire malum, aut progreſſus ſiſtere morbi.
Commentariolum *de vita* condidit *acta*
Ipſe *ſua*, patriâ mox diſceſſurus ab urbe,
Idque tuæ fidei, ſimul ~~&~~ genus omne ſchedarum, / et
Commiſit; ~~jamque hic rerum mihi naſcitur ordo.~~
Eſt iter ingreſſus quando pluvialis Aprilis
Graminaque et flores Maio tradebat alendos ;
Illâ Londoniis ego tempeſtate morabar,
Sed, deſiderio ſocii perculſus, abivi,
Conductis rapiendus equis atque axe citato,
Protenus in Scotiam ; mecum Comes ~~adfuit~~ unà / avolat
Aptus amicitiæ officiis, animique benigni,
~~Huic eadem quoque~~ cauſa viæ ; fit ~~et~~ obvius ipſe / Cui par tum
Morpethi, nobis ~~ubi non ſperatus,~~ HUMEUS. / forte
Inde Comes, repetens veſtigia, fidus amico / non expectatus
Perque locos omnes et diverſoria ſemper
Hærebat lateri, et curas ſermone levabat.
Atque utinam, pars ipſe chori, ~~conviva~~ fuiſſem ! / sociusq;

\+ rerum inde mihi jam nascitur ordo.

Sed

Sed me religio, nulli cessura, coegit
~~Instaurare~~ viam, patriosque revisere fines. | coeptam urgere
Namque ego de reditu nuper promissa parenti
Longævæ dederam scriptis sancita, neque illa
Stare ad Fifæi cessabat littoris oras
Opperiens gnatum maternis anxia curis.
Mutato cessit morbi violentia cœlo,
Membraque, continuis exercita cursibus, auctas
Sumere paulatim vires; hinc sanior ~~illi~~ | ipsi
Visus Londoniis Habitus, quàm nuper Edinæ.
Conveniunt medici, Baias * vox omnibus una
Esse salutares, Baias migravit Humeus,
Potaturus *aquas*, queis commendaverat olim
Ipsa suum imperium domitrix Hygeia malorum! | i
Principio, rerum facies jucunda *liquori*
Baiano famam dedit, ut jam credulus omen
Ipse videretur Reducis cœpisse Salutis. | e
Mox tamen indomiti exarsit vis pristina morbi,
Nota nimis; retrò tunc omnia visa referri,
Quæsitæque artes nocuere, et sparsa medentûm
Agmina fugerunt, nec profuit haustus *aquarum*.
~~Tunc spes vivendi, compostâ mente, rejecit,~~
~~Et se ducturum fatis commisit Humeus.~~
Inde lares repetit patrios, attritus, et ægro
Corpore debilior multûm, sed et integra mansit
Mens hilaris, morumque animus memor usque priorum
Sæpe retractabat prius edita scripta, severo
Judice quæ curas poterant meruisse secundas, | us | ex,
Sæpe leves Sapientem oblectavere libelli.

* *Thermæ, apud Anglos, præcipui nominis, in provincia Somersettensi: ibi natio medicorum.*

Nu

spem vitæ omnem
Tum spes vivendi composito pectore misit
Seque suis ultrò fatis subjecit Humeus

Nunc et, amicorum vario ſermone, moleſtæ
Tœdia fallebat vitæ, nunc veſpere ſero
Ludebat, quod quondam illi florentibus annis
Delitiæ, nunc grande mali ſolamen, *Huiſtum* *.
Quin vultus hilares, et ſermo comis, et idem
Servatus vitæ tenor ac prius eſſe ſolebat,
Fecerunt, quanquam mortis manifeſta propinquæ
Indicia extarent, ut multi credere ſignis
Noluerint viſis, doctuſque Machaonis artes
Talibus aggreſſus fuerit *Dundaſus* amicum.
" *Edmondſtoneum* viſurus rure Tribunum
" Omnia fauſta feram, rabiem miteſcere morbi,
" Teque tuis reddi." Contra reſpondit HUMEUS,
" Non ego te, *Dundaſe*, levem fictive tenacem
" Credebam, tu vera meo fer dicta ſodali.
" Morte *citâ* morior *leniſſe*, nec, ut reor, odit
" Si quis me, *citius* moriturum, ſive quis amicus
" *Lenius* optaret." Modico poſt tempore venit
Edmondſtoneus, ſortem miſeratus acerbam,
Dicturuſque vale, &c.

Tunc ego, " te fractis, cariſſime, viribus ægrum
" Et video et vidiſſe dolet, jamque undique ſævæ
" Apparent morbi facies, inimicaque nobis
" Omina; ſed voces hilares, lætumque remiſsâ

* *Angl.* Whiſt.
Notus et Heſperiis, notus quoque luſus Eois,
Qui quid ſit pulchrum, &c.

" Fronte

" Fronte supercilium, & vitalis spiritus auræ
" Acer adhuc, suadent aliquid sperare secundi."
At sapiens, " Pol me moribundum, Adame, vocares
/ velles " Nomina si rebus dare convenientia ~~mavis~~ :
" Altera jam morbo implicitum me detinet æstas,
" Ille quidem, vegeti ~~quamvis nunc~~ corporis essem,
/ quanquam quis " Difficilis, senium gravat, haud sanabilis ullâ
" Arte, *Diarrhœam* medici dixêre Pelasgi.
" Membrorum virtutem horæ prædantur euntes,
" Sensi equidem, et sedes inter vitalia fixit
" Dira valetudo, nec te spes lactet inanis,
" Adstat summa dies"—" esto ut sis verus haruspex,
" Quo lœteris habes ; sociis felicia cedunt
" Omnia, dives opum nec ab una parte beata
" Stat fraterna domus."
His ego vicinum morti solabar amicum.
" Jamdudum, hæc animo recolens," respondit HUMEUS,
" Perfusum multâ sensi dulcedine pectus,
" Atque ubi *Luciâni* nuper legisse *Cataplum*
" Contigit, hærebam ambiguus, quæ causa morarum
/ torvo " Danda seni ~~tetrico~~, fatalem ascendere cymbam
" Cum jubet, et Stygias secum tranare paludes ;
" Non mihi conveniunt causæ quæ pluribus umbris.
" Nec dotanda domi est, viridi jam nubilis ævo,
" Nata, nec instaurandæ ædes, nullique supersunt,
" ~~Me quibus ulcisci vellem implacabilis, hostes.~~"

" De quibus ulcisci me vellem turbidus, hoste

" ~~Ut verum fatear, quid~~ respondere Charonti [*margin:* "Nil adeo post]
" ~~Non habeo~~; quæcunque animus decreverat olim [*margin:* quod]
" Seria, perfeci, Fortuna nec auctius unquam [*margin:* Inpromptu est]
" Et melius sociis faciet charisque propinquis,
" Nestoreum quamvis fuerim victurus in ævum
" Integer, et nihil est, cur, rebus rite peractis,
" Vel cuperem superesse, vel indigna~~ter~~ obire." [*margin:* tus; m.]
Deinde, sibi risus quærens, sermone jocari
Ex re composito cœpit, causasque morandi
Fingere ludicras, responsaque ~~torva~~ Charontis. [*margin:* sæva]
" Altius at mecum reputans" lepidissimus inquit,
" Compellare senem statui, et mollire loquendo,
" Quas olim emisi, *Vero* duce et auspice, Chartæ,
" Jam castigatæ volitare per ora virorum
" Incipient," modo tu, venerandi Portitor Orci,
" Ad patriam remeare *tuum* patiaris HUMEUM.
" Anne meos iterum posc~~et~~ vox publica Libros, [*margin:* a]
" Plausibus anne iterum toll~~et~~ super astra secundis [*margin:* a]
" Scire aveo; ~~mox~~ lœtus ego, tellure relictâ, [*margin:* tum]
" Scriptorum explebo numerum reddarque tenebris.
" Ille autem, ~~frustra precibus muliebribus instas,~~
" ~~Quas te lucis amor famæque iterare juberet~~;
" *Aucta* quid *editio et mendis purgata* severas
" Ad Parcas faciet? tu, si vacat, ocius atram
" Scande ratem, et nostris succede Penatibus hospes.
" At possem mox ipse reponere, temporis oro
" Tantillum, bone vir, spatium concede precanti;
" Ut genus humanum tenebris et ~~nube~~ malignâ [*margin:* nocte]
" Eriperem, monita edixi, lumenque tetendi,
" Forsitan et, paucos modo vita supersit in annos,
" Quas messes dabit hæc animi cultura videbo,
" Quæque *Superstitio* struxit tabulata repentè

" Immani

[*handwritten:* × causas nequicquam nectis ~~inanes~~, ineptas
Quas tibi lucis amor suadet famæq; cupido.]

" Immani casu ruitura — at verba repressit
" Imperfecta Charon, tumidoque excanduit ore,
" Mitte moras, nebulo, non est opus unius ævi
" Quod cupis, *Illa* diu mentes agitabit agrestes.
" Mene locaturum tibi per tot sæcula vitam,
" Belle, putes? longi sermonis desine tandem,
" Tartareumque subi, quid stas ignave, phaselum."
~~Quanquam festivè~~ fu~~erat de~~ mor~~te locutus~~
V~~icinâ~~, nil ventosum ~~vel~~ grande sonabat, | nil
(Histrio ut in scenis artis documenta daturus),
Quo sibi *Magnanimi* nomen laudesque pararet.
Mentio crebra fuit supremi finis, amicis
Multa super morbo rogitantibus; ille nec usquam
Hanc sibi materiam sumpsit, nec longius æquo
Tractabat, certus fati impavidusque futuri.
Alloquium, cujus retuli capita omnia, *sexto*
Idibus Augusti est habitum, qui *Feria quinta*
Exstitit *Hebdomadæ*, ex illo ~~sed~~ tempore visus | dein
Est semel, et mecum semel est congressus HUMEUS.
Excipiebat enim, jam corpore debilis omni,
Urbano, quod moris erat, sermone sodales,
Plura loqui cupiens majoraque viribus ausus;
Verùm ubi lassatum miserè se comperit istis | ( )
Officiis vitare hominum commercia cœpit: | ( )
Meque ideo, Ipsius monitis, egressus Edinâ
Ad Kirkcaldenses retuli maternaque tecta,
Inde revisurus, si forte vocaret, amicum,
Et medico pactus *Blacko*, qui ~~maximus~~ ægri | sæpius
Adstabat lecto, ut, missis quandoque tabellis,
Eventus morbi discrimen et omne referret.
Ille mihi *undecimo*, servans promissa, *Kalendis*
Septembris Scriptum dedit; en ipsissima verba.

" Ex

× Illa autem, quanquam lepidè de morte locutus
Instanti,

" Ex quo ſalutavi meis te literis
" Horas Humeus tranſigit
" Satis quietas, at minutis viribus;
" Nec hæret affixus toro,
" Die ſed omni egreſſus e cubiculo
" Deſcendit in ~~domum inferam~~, triclinium
" Nulliſque viſus, præter unum et alterum,
" Libris legendis incubat.
" Nam colloquentes, quos habet cariſſimos
" Et tædet audire et dolet.
" Beatus Ille, qui procul ſodalibus,
" Tranquillus et potens ſui
" Vivit ſolutus anxiâ formidine,
" Fugæque temporis favet,
" Ineruditos lectitans libellulos
" Riſum movere qui ſolent."
Poſtera lux ſcriptum mihi, quod præcepit Humeus,
Attulit, agnoſco voces morientis, et inde,
Queis te dele~~ctem~~, nonnulla excerpere viſum eſt: consoler
" ~~Cùm morer~~ lecto, mea verba, Smithe, Dum moror
" Filius fratris calamo notabit,
" Ipſe ad occaſum videor citato
" Vergere lapſu.
" Venit, heſternâ mihi nocte, Febris,
" Illa ſed fallax hodie receſſit,
" Quam ſoluturam citò ſuſpicabar
Tædia morbi.
" Ne, mei cauſâ, repetas Edinam,
" Per vagos fluctus et iniqua ponti,
" Tu cave, tempus breve, quo ſodalis
" Ora tueri
" Reſtat ægroto, ſpatiumve fandi;
" Virium ſi quid mihi adhuc ſuperſit

" Rectius,

" Rectius, *Blacko* referente, diſces.
" Vive valeque."

[*Edinburgi Scotorum*, x. *Kal. Sept. A. C. N.* 1776.]

Deinde die quarto, *Blacki* quæ cura medentis,
Miſſa, miniſterio curſoris, Epiſtola venit.
" HUMEUS ille, quem colebamus, fuit,
" Heri tenebris additus !
" Aliquot die~~rum~~ ante fatalem impetum
" Illi ſtetit mors obvia,
" Cùm totus æger, ~~et pereſo corpore~~,
" Non ſuſtineret amplius
" Morbi irruentis ferre vel moleſtias,
" Vel ſe levare e lectulo ;
" At ſenſibus, quoad vixit, integerrimis,
" Nec viſus eſt doloribus
" Angi, nec impotens queri, et ſæpiſſimè,
" ~~Ferebat et occaſio~~,
" Circùm occupatos ~~eſt locutus ad~~ ſuos
" Sermone blandus melleo.
" Ut evocarem te tuis Penatibus
" Transnavigaturum freta,
" Duxi ſupervac~~aneum, et vetaverat~~
" Miſſis ~~HUMEUS~~ literis—
" Vox hæſitabat, debili tamen viro
" Animæ ſupremum ad halitum
" Beata mentis adfuit ſerenitas
" Quâ vix habebit æmulos."

Hæc finis *Sophiæ* DOCTORI, hic exitus illi
Egregio meritis famæque ingentis HUMEO
Contigit, at nobis flere et meminiſſe relictum !

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Scripturus, Strahane, tibi, suavissime rerum, Zator a indoleo,

Kirkaldy, Fifeshire, Nov. 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR,

IT is with a real, though a very melancholy pleasure, that I sit down to give you some account of the behaviour of our late excellent friend, Mr. Hume, during his last illness.

Though, in his own judgment, his disease was mortal and incurable, yet he allowed himself to be prevailed upon, by

 the

the entreaty of his friends, to try what might be the effects of a long journey. A few days before he ſet out, he wrote that account of his own life, which, together with his other papers, he has left to your care. My account, therefore, ſhall begin where his ends.

He ſet out for London towards the end of April, and at Morpeth met with Mr. John Home and myſelf, who had both come down from London on purpoſe to ſee him, expecting to have found him at Edinburgh.

Mr.

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Mr. Home returned with him, and attended him during the whole of his ſtay in England, with that care and attention which might be expected from a temper ſo perfectly friendly and affectionate. As I had written to my mother that ſhe might expect me in Scotland, I was under the neceſſity of continuing my journey. His diſeaſe ſeemed to yield to exerciſe and change of air, and when he arrived in London, he was apparently in much better health than when he left Edinburgh. He was adviſed to go to Bath to drink the

waters,

waters, which appeared for ſome time to have ſo good an effect upon him, that even he himſelf began to entertain, what he was not apt to do, a better opinion of his own health. His ſymptoms, however, ſoon returned with their uſual violence, and from that moment he gave up all thoughts of recovery, but ſubmitted with the utmoſt cheerfulneſs, and the moſt perfect complacency and reſignation. Upon his return to Edinburgh, though he found himſelf much weaker, yet his cheerfulneſs never abated, and he continued

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medicus Dundasius, ...
Ipse, Edmonstonum visurus, ...
omnia facta ...
...

to divert himself, as usual, with correcting his own works for a new edition, with reading books of amusement, with the conversation of his friends; and, sometimes in the evening, with a party at his favourite game of whist. N.L. His cheerfulness was so great, and his conversation and amusements run so much in their usual strain, that, notwithstanding all bad symptoms, many people could not believe he was dying. "I shall tell your friend, "Colonel Edmondstone," said Doctor Dundas to him one day, "that I left you much better,

nonunquam sera ...
... Whist.

" and in a fair way of recovery." " Doctor," said he, " as I be- " lieve you would not chuse to " tell any thing but the truth, " you had better tell him, that " I am dying as fast as my ene- " mies, if I have any, could " wish, and as easily and cheer- " fully as my best friends could " desire." Colonel Edmondstone soon afterwards came to see him, and take leave of him; and on his way home, he could not forbear writing him a letter bidding him once more an eternal adieu, and applying to him, as to a dying man, the beautiful French verses

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verſes in which the Abbé Chaulieu, in expectation of his own death, laments his approaching ſeparation from his friend, the Marquis de la Fare. Mr. Hume's magnanimity and firmneſs were ſuch, that his moſt affectionate friends knew, that they hazarded nothing in talking or writing to him as to a dying man, and that ſo far from being hurt by this frankneſs, he was rather pleaſed and flattered by it. I happened to come into his room while he was reading this letter, which he had juſt received, and which he immediately ſhowed

~~hanc~~ mihi dedit ipse legendas

me. I told him, that though I was sensible how very much he was weakened, and that appearances were in many respects very bad, yet his cheerfulness was still so great, the spirit of life seemed still to be so very strong in him, that I could not help entertaining some faint hopes. He answered, "Your hopes are groundless. An habitual diarrhœa of "more than a year's standing, "would be a very bad disease at "any age: at my age it is a "mortal one. When I lie down "in the evening, I feel myself "weaker than when I rose in the "morning;

– pol me moribundum, Adame, vocares
si morbo instanti proprium vis ponere nomen,
morbus enim, quamvis vegeto nunc corporis esset
Difficilis, senium gravat; insanabilis illa
Arte, ΔΙΑΡΡΟΙΑΝ Graii dicere medentes

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" morning; and when I rise in the
" morning, weaker than when I
" lay down in the evening. I am
" sensible, besides, that some of my
" vital parts are affected, so that
" I must soon die." " Well,"
said I, " if it must be so, you
have at least the satisfaction of
leaving all your friends, your
brother's family in particular,
in great prosperity." He said
that he felt that satisfaction so
sensibly, that when he was read-
ing a few days before, Lucian's
Dialogues of the Dead, among
all the excuses which are alleg-
ed to Charon for not entering
readily

Instat summa dies, et ineluctabile fatum

His ego mecum [illegible] solabar amicum

[illegible]

readily into his boat, he could not find one that fitted him; he had no houſe to finiſh, he had no daughter to provide for, he had no enemies upon whom he wiſhed to revenge himſelf. "I "could not well imagine," ſaid he, "what excuſe I could make to "Charon in order to obtain a little "delay. I have done every thing "of conſequence which I ever "meant to do, and I could at no "time expect to leave my relations "and friends in a better ſituation "than that in which I am now "likely to leave them; I, there- "fore, have all reaſon to die con- "tented."

Sociis melius charisque propinquis

— nec ratio est, rebus quum rite peractis
Cur cuperem superesse vel indignarer obire

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"tented." He then diverted himself with inventing several jocular excuses, which he supposed he might make to Charon, and with imagining the very surly answers which it might suit the character of Charon to return to them. "Upon further consideration," said he, "I thought I might say to him, "Good Charon, I have been correcting my works for a new edition. Allow me a little time, that I may see how the Public receives the alterations." But Charon would answer, "When you have seen the effect

" of these, you will be for mak-
" ing other alterations. There
" will be no end of such excuses;
" so, honest friend, please step
" into the boat." But I might
still urge, " Have a little pa-
" tience, good Charon, I have
" been endeavouring to open
" the eyes of the Public. If I
" live a few years longer, I may
" have the satisfaction of seeing
" the downfal of some of the
" prevailing systems of supersti-
" tion." But Charon would
then lose all temper and decency.
" You loitering rogue, that will
" not happen these many hun-

" dred

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" dred years. Do you fancy I
" will grant you a leafe for fo
" long a term? Get into the
" boat this inftant, you lazy
" loitering rogue."

But, though Mr. Hume always talked of his approaching diffolution with great cheerfulnefs, he never affected to make any parade of his magnanimity. He never mentioned the fubject but when the converfation naturally led to it, and never dwelt longer upon it than the courfe of the converfation happened to require: it was a fubject indeed

At quamvis uti placuit sermone jocoso
Mortis ubi jam vicina debet discursibus aptam
Materiam
Sed sibi magnanimi nomen laudesq parare.

which occurred pretty frequently, in conſequence of the inquiries which his friends, who came to ſee him, naturally made concerning the ſtate of his health. The converſation which I mentioned above, and which paſſed on Thurſday the 8th of Auguſt, was the laſt, except one, that I ever had with him. He had now become ſo very weak, that the company of his moſt intimate friends fatigued him; for his cheerfulneſs was ſtill ſo great, his complaiſance and ſocial diſpoſition were ſtill ſo entire, that when any friend was with him, he

Idus Septembris sexto

urbanus ut olim

Facilis

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he could not help talking more, and with greater exertion, than ſuited the weakneſs of his body. At his own deſire, therefore, I agreed to leave Edinburgh, where I was ſtaying partly upon his account, and returned to my mother's houſe here, at Kirkaldy, upon condition that he would ſend for me whenever he wiſhed to ſee me; the phyſician who ſaw him moſt frequently, Doctor Black, undertaking, in the mean time, to write me occaſionally an account of the ſtate of his health.

et me, magnâ ... Edinâ,
Ad Kircaldenses maternaque tecta recessi

inde reversurus [illegible] quandoque vocaret Humeus

On the 22d of August, the Doctor wrote me the following letter:

"Since my last, Mr. Hume has passed his time pretty easily, but is much weaker. He sits up, goes down stairs once a day, and amuses himself with reading, but seldom sees any body. He finds that even the conversation of his most intimate friends fatigues and oppresses him; and it is happy that he does not need it, for he is quite free from anxiety, impatience, or low spirits, and passes his time very

well

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well with the aſſiſtance of amuſing books."

I received the day after a letter from Mr. Hume himſelf, of which the following is an extract.

Edinburgh, 23d Auguſt, 1776.

"MY DEAREST FRIEND,

"I am obliged to make uſe of my nephew's hand in writing to you, as I do not riſe today. * * * * * * * * *

"I go very faſt to decline, and laſt night had a ſmall fever, which I hoped might put a quicker period to this tedious illneſs, but unluckily it has, in a great meaſure, gone off. I cannot ſubmit to your coming over here on my account, as it is poſſible for me to ſee you ſo ſmall a part of the day, but Doctor Black can better inform you concerning the degree of ſtrength which may from time to time remain with me. Adieu, &c."

Three

Mihi quod superest
virium, Blacko referente disces,
Vive, vale.

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Three days after I received the following letter from Doctor Black.

Edinburgh, Monday, 26th August, 1776.

"DEAR SIR,

"Yesterday about four o'clock afternoon, Mr. Hume expired. The near approach of his death became evident in the night between Thursday and Friday, when his disease became excessive, and soon weakened him so much, that he could no longer rise out of his bed. He continued to the last perfectly sensible,

ſible, and free from much pain or feelings of diſtreſs. He never dropped the ſmalleſt expreſſion of impatience; but when he had occaſion to ſpeak to the people about him, always did it with affection and tenderneſs. I thought it improper to write to bring you over, eſpecially as I heard that he had dictated a letter to you deſiring you not to come. When he became very weak, it coſt him an effort to ſpeak, and he died in ſuch a happy compoſure of mind, that nothing could exceed it."

*

Thus

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Thus died our moſt excellent, and never to be forgotten friend; concerning whoſe philoſophical opinions men will, no doubt, judge variouſly, every one approving, or condemning them, according as they happen to coincide or diſagree with his own; but concerning whoſe character and conduct there can ſcarce be a difference of opinion. His temper, indeed, ſeemed to be more happily balanced, if I may be allowed ſuch an expreſſion, than that perhaps of any other man I have ever known. Even in the loweſt ſtate of his fortune,

fortune, his great and neceſſary frugality never hindered him from exerciſing, upon proper occaſions, acts both of charity and generoſity. It was a frugality founded, not upon avarice, but upon the love of independency. The extreme gentleneſs of his nature never weakened either the firmneſs of his mind, or the ſteadineſs of his reſolutions. His conſtant pleaſantry was the genuine effuſion of good-nature and good-humour, tempered with delicacy and modeſty, and without even the ſlighteſt tincture of maligni-

ty,

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